LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for reducing subjective artifacts in a video image, comprising the steps of:

receiving supplemental information that includes at least one parameter that specifies an attribute of comfort noise for addition to an image;

generating temporally correlated noise and

making a determination, in accordance with the at least one parameter, whether to add the temporally correlated noise, and if so, adding such noise to the image at a level in accordance with the at least one parameter, to substantially hide artifacts.

2.   (original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of generating the temporally correlated noise by the steps of:

obtaining a block pixel average;

accessing a look-up table using the block pixel average and picture quantization parameters to obtain weights of temporal correlation factors for weighting the added noise.

3.   (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of accessing a look-up table further comprises the step of accessing a look-up table containing Gaussian random numbers.

4.   (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of adding temporally correlated noise includes the step of adding temporally correlated noise to one of luma or chroma pixels.

5.   (original) The method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of adding temporally correlated noise includes adding noise to both luma and chroma pixels.

6.   (Previously) Apparatus for reducing subjective artifacts in a video image, comprising:

means for receiving supplemental information that includes at least one parameter that specifies an attribute of comfort noise for addition to an image;

means for generating [the] temporally correlated noise [in accordance]; and

means, responsive to the at least one parameter, for making a determination whether to add the temporally correlated noise, and if so for adding such noise to the image at a level in accordance with the at least one parameter, to substantially hide artifacts.

7.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 6 further comprising:

means for obtaining a block pixel average;

means for accessing a look-up table using the block pixel average and picture quantization parameters to obtain weights of temporal correlation factors for weighting the added noise.

8.   (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the look up contains Gaussian random numbers.

9.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the means for adding temporally correlated noise adds temporally correlated noise to one of luma or chroma pixels.

10.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the means for adding temporally correlated noise adds temporally correlated noise to both luma and chroma pixels